

TOPONYMS WITHIN THE PARÂNG MOUNTAINS REFLECTED IN CARTOGRAPHIC DOCUMENTS OVER TIME

TOPONIMELE DIN MASIVUL PARÂNG REFLECTATE ÎN DOCUMENTE CARTOGRAFICE DE-A LUNGUL TIMPULUI

Emil MARINESCU¹

Abstract: The study highlights the significance of the toponyms and their use in time within the Parâng Mountains, their diversity (oiconyms, geomorphonyms, hydronyms, hodonyms, anthroponyms, hileonyms), their preservation or loss over time. An important aspect is the difference between the toponyms on cartographical materials and their location and names assigned by the locals.

Key-words: *toponyms, old cartographic documents, tourist maps, Parâng Mountains*
Cuvinte-cheie: *toponime, documente cartografice vechi, hărți turistice, Munții Parâng*

I. INTRODUCTION

Parâng Massif is located in the central part of the Southern Carpathians and represents an area of intense and continuous living, with a population closely linked to traditional mountain-specific occupations. Thus, due to the extension of the alpine pastures, the Parâng Mountains together with the other five geomorphological units in the Parâng-Cindrel mountain group (Șureanu, Lotru, Cindrel, Latorița, and Căpățâni Mts.) are the most important grazing area in the Romanian Carpathians.

The shepherds from Marginimea Sibiului and Cindrel Mountains have spread over time in all the massifs bordering their area of origin, bringing influences not only to customs, popular port and settlements founded in the south and west of Parang Massif, but also through the thesaurus of toponyms belonging to the cultural heritage of the studied area. The place names in Parâng Massif belong to both, the population from Ardeal (the northern slope of the massif) and the population from Northern Oltenia that lived in the southern slope of the massif. On the ridge of the massif, where in the past, the Romanian inhabitants who belonged to two monarchs were neighboring, sometimes different names appear for the same toponym (Badea, 2002). Eg. Mândra Peak /Vârful Parâng.

¹ University of Craiova, Faculty of Sciences, Geography Department, Al. I. Cuza Street, No. 13, Craiova, Romania, e-mail: emilmrnc@yahoo.com

The toponymy of the Parâng Massif, analyzed and correlated with various cartographic documents over time and with the field documentation through discussions with local people, represents an important argument to demonstrate the seniority, stability and continuity of an ancient population of mountain inhabitants.

The toponyms in the Parâng Mountains are the creation of the populations that lived on both sides of the Carpathians, temporarily separated by borders until the beginning of the 20th century.

The toponyms reflect not only the spirit of observation of the inhabitants of these regions and the picturesque of local language, but also an essential characteristic of a studied geographical area.

In these regions, the toponymy truly mirrors the relationships that occur during the transhumance. In this way, the analysis of the toponyms offers evidence regarding the Romanian native population that has been living in these regions from immemorial time.

Another aspect is that related to the names assigned to the places, over a century ago, by the geographers and geologists who studied this area, the toponyms being necessary for the elaboration of detailed cartographic materials.

In order to eliminate confusion when new maps of the Parâng Mountains are prepared, it is important for toponymy studies to mention synonymy, which occurs quite frequently in some areas.

II. DATA AND METHODS

This study accomplishes an inventory and analysis of toponyms within the Parâng Mountains starting from four categories of maps.

The first category of maps, in which the Northern and central part of the Parâng Mountains can be found, are military maps elaborated during the Austrian-Hungarian Monarchy realized in three stages: *The first military topographical survey (the Josephine Map, Fig. 1)* named after Emperor Joseph II, who ordered its execution in the period between 1764 and 1785 (1769-1773 for the Grand Principality of Transylvania); *The second military topographical surveying* ordered by Emperor Francis I of Austria, called *the Franciscan Map (Fig. 2)* (executed between 1853-1858 and 1869-1870 for Transylvania) and *The third military topographical surveying* that was also ordered by Emperor Franz Joseph I and executed between 1869 and 1887, the maps being published in several editions by 1910 (*the Austrian maps, Fig. 3*). The mentioned maps are available at [http://mapire.eu/ Historical Maps Online](http://mapire.eu/Historical%20Maps%20Online). For the southern part of the Parâng Mountains, the Austrian military map of Wallachia (Fig. 4) was used (*General Karte des Fürstenthums Walachei, 1867*) and the *Szathmari Map (1864)* (Fig. 5). It is available at <http://www.charta1864.ro/> and <http://geo-spatial.org/>.

The second cartographic source from which we have analysed toponyms within the Parâng Mountains are the maps and studies which Emmanuel de Martonne (1898-1906) and Murgoci Gheorghe published in 1898 and 1899 (Munteanu-Murgoci, 1898a, 1898b, 1899).

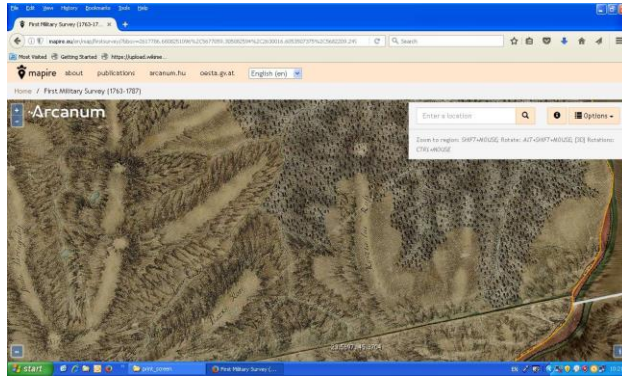


Fig. 1. The Parâng Mountains on the first military topographical survey (1769-1773) (*Josephine Map*)
 (Source: <http://mapire.eu/Historical Maps Online>)

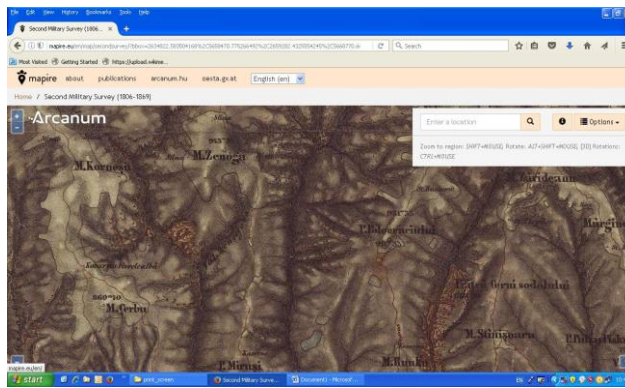


Fig. 2. The Parâng Mountains on the second military topographical survey (1853-1858) (*Franciscan Map*)
 (Source: <http://mapire.eu/Historical Maps Online>)

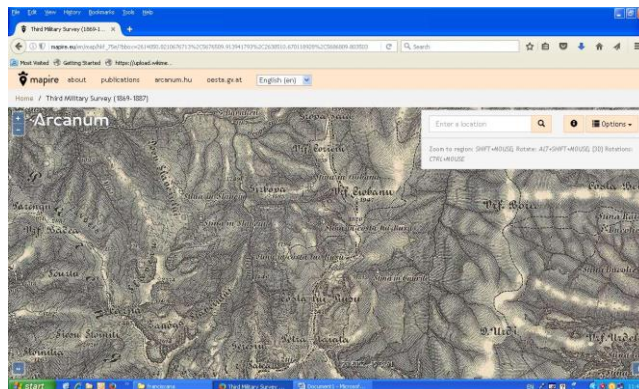


Fig. 3. The Parâng Mountains on the third military topographical survey (1869-1887) (*Austrian Map*)
 (Source: <http://mapire.eu/Historical Maps Online>)

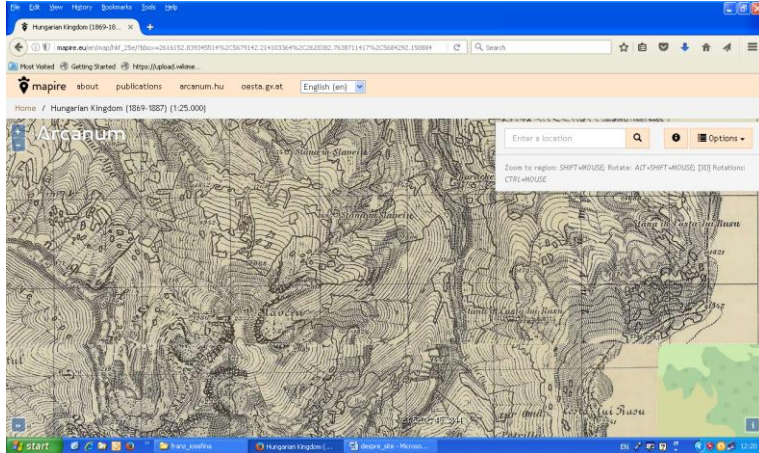


Fig. 4. The Parâng Mountains on the Hungarian Kingdom Map (1869-1887)(1:25,000)
 (Source: <http://mapire.eu/Historical Maps Online>)

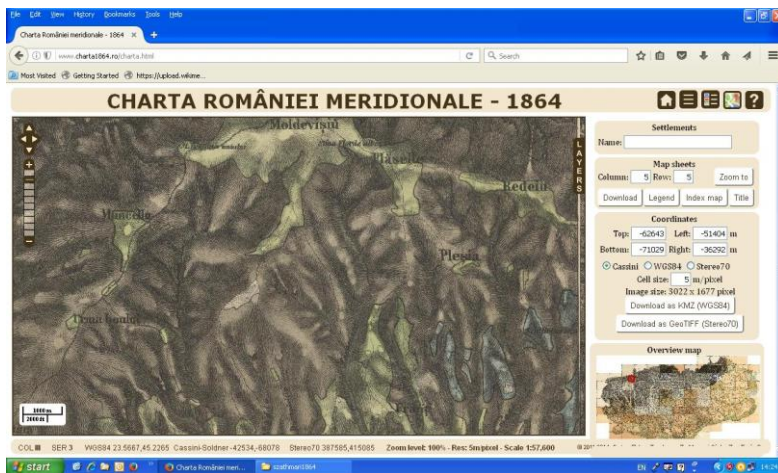


Fig. 5. The Parâng Mountains on the Szathmari Map (1864)
 (Source: <http://www.charta1864.ro/>)

The third category of the analyzed maps taken into consideration for toponyms were the topographic maps at a scale of 1: 25,000 made by DTM Military Topographic Department (1980).

The fourth category of maps are the tourist maps of the Parâng Mountains realized over time (1962, 1964, 1974, 1983, 1986, 2002, 2005, 2006, 2012, 2016), published in Romania in several collections (*Călăuza Turistului*, *Munții Noștri*, *Hărți Turistice Montane Carpați*, *Munții Carpați*) of various publishers. Other works that mapped the area of interest published by Pavelescu& Pavelescu (1964), Iancu Silvia (1970) and Decei P. (1981) were used.

To these cartographic materials, there was added lot of field information gathered from villagers, foresters and shepherds.

III. RESULTS AND DISCUSSIONS

From the mentioned sources there are 642 place names from which: 298 are geomorphonyms (46.41%), 277 hydronyms (43.41%) and 67 oiconyms (10.45%).

Of the geomorphonyms, a percentage of 17.6% (9.55% of hydronyms, respectively) have an anthroponym as origin (many Romanian people names as: Rus, Dăncilă, Gâlcescu, Stăncior, Godeanu, Galeș, Burtan), a fact that demonstrates the intense inhabiting of the mountain over time: *Coasta lui Rus, Pârâul lui Dăncilă, Lacul Gâlcescu, Dunga lui Stăncior, Plaiul lui Godeanu, Pârâul lui Galeș, Căldarea lui Burtan*. These names could be translated into English as follows: Rus' Edge, Dăncilă's Stream, Gâlcescu Lake, Stăncior's Edge, Godeanu's Plateaux, Galeș' Stream, Burtan's Glacier Cirque, respectively.

For 10.12% of the toponyms the origin has significance in features, shapes or other relief aspects such as: small, cut, stony, hole, dry, slabs, frozen, bottomless, heavy fog, green, table-like stones, white stones. For example: *Parângul Mic, Piatra Tăiată, Coasta Pietroasă, Zănoaga Găuri, Zănoaga Seacă, Lespezi, Lacul Înghetăt, Tăul fără Fund, Pâcleșă, Lacul Verde, Groapa Seacă, Polițele, Pietrele Albe* etc. About 4.36% of the toponyms from the old maps have been now lost, while 95.94% of them have been preserved, demonstrating their continuous and secular use.

One important aspect is the inconsistency of some toponyms of the cartographic materials with names assigned by the locals or with their location on the map. It is worth mentioning here: *Slivei - Slăvei - Mija / Călcescu - Gâlcescu / Pârleele - Sliveiul Mic / Urdele - Lespezi / Ciobanu - Cibanu / Huluzu - Boianu / Zănoaga Verde - Russian coast - Gârbovu / Parângu Mare - Mândra / Setea Mare - Pleșcoaia / Urdele - Urda / Ciobanu Lake - Iezeru Pietros / Ieșu - Lașul*. Of these examples, we can notice the toponym of Slăvei (Slivei) that appears on the old maps (1773, 1858, 1870, 1887, 1910) and which is also widely used today by shepherds, while this toponym at present has been replaced with the toponym Mija on all tourist maps (Mija is a peak of 2368 m altitude).

The toponym of Călcescu designates the upper valley of the Lotru River and the glacial lake with the same name found on the maps published between 1950 and 1989. According to some authors the toponym would have come from the entangled paths of access (in Romanian - *poteci încâlcite*), referring to the characteristic of the subalpine vegetation dominated by dwarf mountain pine (*Pinus mugo sin. Pinus sin. montana*) and juniper (*Juniperus sibirica sin. Juniperus nana*) (Popescu, 1986). At present, the lake is gradually returning to the older name of Gâlcescu, an anthroponym that was used in the past, too. Both in Voineasa resort to which the Lotru basin administratively belongs as well as in the town of Novaci, where there were many shepherds who grazed sheep in the area, Gâlcescu is met as person name, too.

The toponym of Mândra used in the past (1773, 1858, 1870, 1887, 1910, 1980) to designate the highest peak in the Parâng Mountains and the fourth peak in Romania has been replaced on all the tourist maps with the toponym of Parângul Mare (2519 m). It is worth mentioning that Mândra was maintained on the topographic maps (even on the topographic maps published after 1980), although the recommendation of the National Toponymy Commission (1964) was to use the toponym Parângul Mare- fact which created some confusion. Another explanation of this dualism is given by the fact that the toponym was used differently depending on the slope of the mountain on which the inhabitants were (*Mândra* for the southern slope on which sheep grazing was practiced by the shepherds from Oltenia and *Parâng* for the northern slope where shepherds from Ardeal were) (Badea, 2002). Nowadays, both names have been preserved, with the mention that the highest peak is now called the peak Parângul Mare (2519 m) and Mândra (2309 m) is a peak located closely to it, further south in Oltenia.

The word *parâng* is supposed to have its origin in the Greek word *pharangos* meaning "hole, pit, deepening", allusion to the form of the glacier cirques in Parâng (Geografia României, vol. III, 1986), cirques that appear under the popular name as "zănoagă" (deepening) especially on the northern slope, or "groapă" (pit) on the southern slope of the Parâng. In fact, there are certain geomorphological differences between the northern and the southern cirques, the first one being deeper and more clearly observed due to the harsher glaciation on the northern side of the massif.

Another aspect results from the analysis of the cartographic materials made by Emmanuel de Martonne in Parâng Massif (1899-1906). On the topographic map of Găuri and Gâlcescu glacial cirques made at a scale of 1: 10,000 (Fig. 6), there is a series of toponyms attributed by the French geographer to certain peaks, edges, erosion outliers and lakes in the memory of some scientific and political personalities (Martonne, 1900). The fact that the map was done at a large scale allowed the authors to use a large number of place names, including the name of some relief forms and glacial lakes for which the French geographer did not have a name at that time.

Thus, interesting and unusual toponyms for the Parâng Massif appear on Emm. de Martonne's map related to various personalities known by him:

- *Căldarea lui Murgoci / Murgoci's Cirque* - Gheorghe Munteanu Murgoci (1872-1925), Romanian geologist who accompanied the French geographer on the field, sustained Carpathian drifting theory coining the geological term of *Getic Drifting Nappe* and discovered in 1900 in Lotru Mountains a group of closely related sorosilicate minerals named *pumpellyite*; the name of the glacial cirque has been preserved till nowadays;
- *Căldarea și Lacul lui Vidal / Vidal Cirque and Vidal Lake* - Paul Vidal de Blache (1845-1918) was a French geographer who established the first department of geography at the Sorbonne University Paris (1899); the name of the lake is also currently used;

- *Lacul lui Pencu / Pencu's Lake* - Albrecht Penck (1858-1945) was a German geomorphologist who elaborated the theory of the upper level of denudation (*gipfelflur*); the name of the lake is currently used;
- *Vârful lui Fuké / Fuké's Peak* - Ferdinand André Fouqué (1828-1904) was a French geologist, Emm. de Martonne's professor of geology at Paris; at present the summit is named *Coasta lui Rus* (2300 m);
- *Coasta lui Popovici / Popovici's Edge* - Valeriu Popovici-Hațeg (1868-1929), Romanian geologist, realized in 1900 the first detailed geological map of Romania at a scale of 1: 300,000; at present *Culmea Zănoaga Verde (Huluzu) / Zănoaga Verde (Huluzu) Edge* is used;
- *Lacul lui Pompiliu / Pompiliu's Lake* - Pompiliu Eliade (1869-1914) – was a Romanian philologist, colleague of Emm. de Martonne at the Faculty of Letters in Paris. He is the one who invited him to visit Romania; nowadays it is called *Lacul Zănoaga / Zănoaga Lake*;
- *Vârful lui Take / Take's Peak* - Take Ionescu (1858-1922), a Romanian politician, prime minister; nowadays it is called *Culmea Gâlcescu / Gâlcescu Edge* (Fig. 6);
- *Căldarea Regelui Carol, Căldarea lui Ferdinand și Masa lui Ferdinand / The Cirque of King Carol, the Cirque of Ferdinand and The Table of Ferdinand* - Carol and Ferdinand were representative names of the monarchy in Romania; the three toponyms represent respectively the two compartments of the Găuri glacial valley and a table-like erosion outlier.

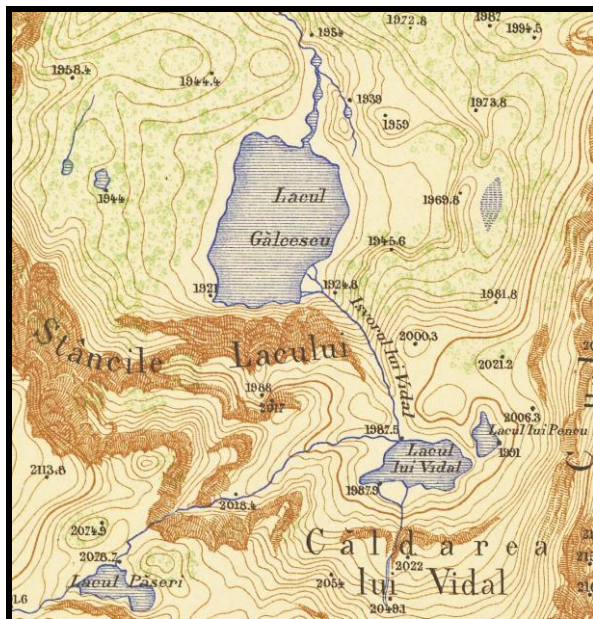


Fig. 6. Gâlcescu area on the map of Găuri and Gâlcescu glacier cirques in the Parâng
(Source: Martonne, 1900)

Most of these toponyms were not preserved over time, one of the causes being the crossing of the communist period, a period in which the toponyms of the topographic and tourist maps that appeared between 1950 and 1989 increased in prevalence.

Other toponyms that appear on Emm. de Martonne's map were taken by the author from the Romanian geologists whom he collaborated with or from the local shepherds: *Circul Gâlcescu / Gâlcescu Cirque*, a toponym that we have been using since 1990 (while *Câlcescu* had been used before 1990), *Lacul Păsări / Birds Lake*, *Dunga lui Stâncior / Stâncior Edge*, *Zănoaga Mare / Large Deepening*, *Căldarea Dracului / Devil's Bucket*, *Coasta Pietroasă / Stony Edge*, *Piatra Tăiată / Cut Stone*, *Găuri / Holes*, *Setea Mică / Small Thirst*, *Setea Mare / Big Thirst* (all these toponyms have been preserved so far, many of them having close relation to the geomorphological features of these places).

Most of analyzed toponyms (59%) were found out by studying ten tourist maps published in the 1965-2016 period that recorded many field data gathered especially by the authors Nae Popescu (1965, 1986) and Gheorghe Ploaie (1980, 1989, 1990, 2006). It is easily noticed the abandonment of some toponyms from the past (4.36%) and the abundance of those obtained through field trip data collection. Most of the tourist maps were executed at a small-scale of 1:50,000 or 1:70,000, but a lot of them show smaller areas in more detail, where one can access details at a scale of 1:25,000. Moreover, comparing the topographic maps with the tourist maps, the latter generally include as many as possible toponyms in order to help tourists orient themselves better.

From the field trips and from the discussions with the locals, shepherds and foresters we have recorded a number of 26 toponyms that do not appear on any cartographic material so far (eg. *Pârâul lui Galeș / Galeș' Stream*, *Cascada Coșurilor / The Waterfall of Chimneys*, *Zănoaga with Pârălitură / The Deepening with Scorch*). These toponyms can be used on a tourist map at the scale of 1: 25000 whenever the issue of editing a new map of the Parâng Mountains arises.

IV. CONCLUSIONS

After the registration and analysis of the toponyms from the Parâng Mountains using cartographic documents from the past (1773-1910), relatively recent topographic maps (1980-2000) at a scale of scale 1:25,000 and tourist maps (1986-2016), a number of 642 toponyms were researched. To these 26 toponyms are added, those identified in the field as being used by shepherds, foresters and locals. They are not found on any cartographic material and they will be included in a later monograph of the studied area.

From the point of view of the cartographic materials, there is a relatively small number of toponyms on topographic maps (12%), an average number on old military maps (29%) and a significant number on tourist maps (59%). The fact is explained by the authors' accurate field documentation collecting data from the locals of the area.

A particular significance from the point of view of toponymy resides in the map of Găuri and Gâlcescu glacial cirques made by Emmanuel de Martonne in 1900, in which the author attributed toponyms to nameless places in memory of some scientific and political personalities of that period.

The highest percentage of the recorded and analyzed toponyms were extracted from the tourist maps (59%). The first tourist maps and research studies of the studied area were made by N. Popescu (1965, 1983, 1986) and Ghe. Ploaie (1980, 1990, 1999, 2006), thus, the initial version of the database of toponyms was based on these documents, and later on completed in 2012 and 2016.

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